

REMARKS

The above patent application has been amended. Enclosed with this Reply is an information disclosure statement citing new references.

The examiner indicated that FIG. 1 should be labeled prior art. Applicant disagrees. FIG. 1 illustrates a "client process 36." Client process 36 is described in FIG. 2 as producing the GUI which are the subject matter of the claims. Therefore, FIG. 1 does not show only that which is old and should not be labeled "Prior Art."

The examiner indicated informalities in the specification and objected to informalities in the claims. The specification and claims have been amended to overcome the objections.

The examiner also rejected the claims as being indefinite. Applicant has amended the claims.

The examiner rejected claims 1-3 6-15 and 17-22, as anticipated by Iyengar US Patent 6,360,205.

Claim 1, as amended, distinguishes over the reference since the reference neither describes nor suggests any of these features including ... a filter region including a plurality of cells, each cell associated with one of the first set of categories of travel itineraries, with selecting of one of the plurality of cells ... causing the itinerary region to display only travel itineraries in the one of the first set of categories associated with the selected cell ... and an indicator applied to any first segment of any itinerary that has a location of arrival for the first segment that is different from a location of departure for the next segment of the itinerary to indicate to the user that the itinerary has different locations of arrival and departure

Iyengar teaches in FIG. 10, an interface that displays itineraries, but does not teach that the itineraries are grouped and clearly does not teach a filter region including a plurality of cells, ... with selecting of one of the plurality of cells ... causing the itinerary region to display only travel itineraries in the one of the first set of categories associated with the selected cell. Iyengar discusses FIG. 10 at Col 11 line 26. However, in that discussion Iyengar does not mention or suggest that TWA, Delta and United are anything more than identifiers for the itineraries displayed on the page. That is, Iyengar does not teach a filter region including a plurality of

cells, ... with selecting of one of the ... cells ... causing the itinerary region to display only travel itineraries in the one of the first set of categories associated with the selected cell. Thus, claim 1 distinguishes.

Claim 1 further distinguishes, since Iyengar does not suggest an indicator applied to any first segment of any itinerary that has a location of arrival for the first segment that is different from a location of departure for the next segment of the itinerary to indicate to the user that the itinerary has different locations of arrival and departure In the 103(a) rejection of claims 23-26 31-42 below, the examiner used Garland to supply this teaching, which the examiner admits is missing from de Marcken. Applicant contends that this teaching is also missing in Iyengar.

Applicant contends that the combination of Iyengar and Garland also do not suggest this feature of the invention. While, Garland teaches highlighting of "command entries," such teachings are insufficient to suggest to one of skill in the art, an indicator applied to any first segment of any itinerary that has a location of arrival for the first segment that is different from a location of departure for the next segment of the itinerary to indicate to the user that the itinerary has different locations of arrival and departure. Applicant does not profess to be the originator of highlighting, or applying indicators to a display. Rather, Applicant contends that it recognized that in travel planning it is desirable to point out to users problems involving different segments of an itinerary. Neither Iyengar, de Marcken, Garland, nor the examiner's reasoning provides any motivation to support the combination of these references.

Accordingly, claim 1 and claims that depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 are allowable over this art.

Claim 2 further distinguishes since the art does not suggest ... the cells are arranged in rows and columns, with cells associated with the first set of categories having the same value for the first travel criterion being positioned in the same row and cells associated with the first set of categories having the same value for the second travel criterion being positioned in the same column.

Claim 3 further distinguishes by reciting that the filter region includes tabs.

Claim 7 distinguishes by reciting that the indicator is applied to the airports associated with the flight segments. Claim 9 distinguishes by reciting that ... one of the cells is associated with a link, the link causing the itinerary region to display only travel itineraries in the one of the first set of categories associated with the cell when a user selects the cell. It is submitted that the references do not suggest at least any of these features.

Claims 12-15 and 17-22 are allowable for similar reasons as given above.

The examiner rejected claims 5 and 16 as obvious over Iyengar US Patent 6,360,205.

Claim 5 serves to further limit claim 1 by reciting that the first travel criterion is selected includes airline, departure time, arrival time, location of departure, location of arrival, number of stops, cost, travel restrictions, expected delays, and safety records. None of the references suggest a travel criterion used to group itineraries into a set of categories based on the values of the travel criterion. Clearly the references do not suggest any travel criterion to group itineraries.

Accordingly, claims 5 and 16 are allowable over this art.

The examiner rejected claims 23-26 31-42, as obvious over de Marcken US Patent 6,307,572 in view of Garland US Patent 6,252,596.

Claim 23 was amended to clarify language in the claim and recites a user interface including a first region to display a first segment of an itinerary ... and a second region to display the next segment of the itinerary Claim 23 also recites that the location of arrival for the first segment being different from the location of departure for the next segment, at least one of the first region and the second region is emphasized to indicate to the user that the itinerary has a different location of arrival for the first segment from the location of departure for the next segment.

The examiner admits that de Marcken does not teach the feature of ... at least one of the first region and the second region is emphasized to indicate to the user that the itinerary has a different location of arrival for the first segment from the location of departure for the next segment. The examiner relies on Garland as teaching highlighting various text attributes. The examiner concludes that it would have been obvious "to include highlighting features of Garland in the travel display of de Marcken because it allows the user to customize the display

presentation to emphasis information to the user in an optically ergonomic way while minimizing eye strain tension and headaches.”

Applicant disagrees. The art itself does not suggest the desirability of the combination of de Marcken with Garland since neither reference recognizes a problem when the location of arrival for the first segment is different from the location of departure for the next segment. Hence, none of the references suggest a solution where at least one of the first region and the second region is emphasized to indicate to the user that the itinerary has a different location of arrival for the first segment from the location of departure for the next segment.

The examiner has also failed to present any convincing reasoning why one would be motivated to combine the teachings of these references. Neither de Marcken nor Garland recognizes the motivating factor of alerting a user of a travel planning system of a discontinuity in travel. Indeed, Garland is directed to a non- analogous art where the use of highlighting is to a command entry as in a menu. It is not directed to alerting a user of a condition, but merely used to help the user pick out the command entry in a menu system. The examiner's proffered motivation does not indicate why one would be lead to identify travel discontinuities and why one would remedy the discontinuities by indicating the discontinuity on a user interface.

Claims 24 and 43, which depend on claim 23 further distinguish over the references.

Claim 25 and 26 are allowable for analogous reasons as claim 23.

Claim 31 is allowable over the references since the references neither describe nor suggest a display of a segment of the itinerary including a location of departure and a location of arrival for the first segment and an alert associated with the first segment, wherein the alert is emphasized to bring it to the attention of the user.

Claims 32-36 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed in claim 31 and claims 37-42 are allowable for analogous reasons as claims 31-37.

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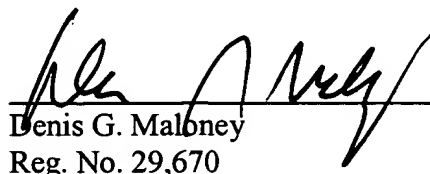
Attorney's Docket No.: 09765-023001

Enclosed is an \$18 check for excess claim fees and a \$420 check for a Petition for Extension of Time. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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